AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 66-80 are pending in this application.

Claims 70 and 71 are being canceled. Claims 66, 72, 77 and 80 are being amended. After the amendments, claims 66-69 and 72-80 will be pending.

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-65. (Canceled)

66. (Currently amended) A fusion polypeptide comprising a collagen-binding domain and an epithelial cell proliferation-modulating ~~domain~~ agent, wherein the epithelial cell proliferation-modulating agent is selected from the group consisting of hemopoietic growth factors (HeGFs), insulin, nerve growth factor (NGF), NGF receptor, epidermal growth factor (EGF) receptor, neu, inhibin α, inhibin β, Müllerian inhibitory substance, tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-receptor (type 1), TNF-receptor (type 2), platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) receptor α, PDGF receptor β, wnt-2, hst/ks3, hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) receptor (c-met), stem cell factor (SCF), SCF receptor (c-kit), erythropoietin (epo), epo receptor, and leukemia inhibitory factor.

67. (Previously presented) The fusion polypeptide of claim 66, wherein the epithelial cell proliferation-modulating agent stimulates epithelial cell proliferation.

68. (Previously presented) The fusion polypeptide of Claim 66, wherein the collagen-binding domain is a collagen-binding domain of von Willebrand factor.

69. (Previously presented) The fusion polypeptide of claim 68, wherein the collagen-binding domain of von Willebrand factor comprises the decapeptide WREPSFMALS (SEQ ID NO:1).

70. (Canceled)

71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently amended) A nucleic acid sequence encoding a fusion polypeptide comprising a collagen-binding domain and an epithelial cell proliferation-modulating ~~domain~~ agent, wherein the epithelial cell proliferation-modulating agent is selected from the group consisting of hemopoietic growth factors (HeGFs), insulin, nerve growth factor (NGF), NGF receptor, epidermal growth factor (EGF) receptor, neu, inhibin α, inhibin β, Müllerian inhibitory substance, tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-receptor (type 1), TNF-receptor (type 2), platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) receptor α, PDGF receptor β, wnt-2, hst/ks3, hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) receptor (c-met), stem cell factor (SCF), SCF receptor (c-kit), erythropoietin (epo), epo receptor, and leukemia inhibitory factor.

73. (Previously presented) The nucleic acid sequence of claim 72, operably linked to a promoter.

74. (Previously presented) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid sequence of claim 72.

75. (Previously presented) The expression vector of claim 74, wherein the expression vector is a retroviral vector.

76. (Previously presented) A host cell comprising the nucleic acid sequence of claim 72.

77. (Currently amended) A method of producing the fusion polypeptide comprising a collagen-binding domain and an epithelial cell proliferation-modulating ~~domain~~ agent, comprising growing the host cells of claim 76 under conditions that allow expression of the fusion polypeptide recovering the fusion polypeptide.

78. (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the host is a prokaryotic cell.

79. (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein the host is a eukaryotic cell.

80. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a fusion polypeptide comprising a collagen-binding domain and an epithelial cell proliferation-modulating ~~domain~~ agent, in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the epithelial cell proliferation-modulating agent is selected from the group consisting of hemopoietic growth factors (HeGFs), insulin, nerve growth factor (NGF), NGF receptor, epidermal growth factor (EGF) receptor, neu, inhibin α, inhibin β, Müllerian inhibitory substance, tumor necrosis factor (TNF)-receptor (type 1), TNF-receptor (type 2), platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) receptor α, PDGF receptor β, wnt-2, hst/ks3, hepatocyte growth factor (HGF) receptor (c-met), stem cell factor (SCF), SCF receptor (c-kit), erythropoietin (epo), epo receptor, and leukemia inhibitory factor.